1st February 1929]

Labour

Provision of peons for Labour Inspectors working in rural areas.

* 1383 Q.—Mr. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware that the Labour Inspectors working in rural areas are not given peons and that therefore they are greatly inconvenienced in the discharge of their duties; and

(b) whether the Government propose to appoint peons to assist such Labour Inspectors as are deserving of such consideration?

A.—(a) & (b) Special Inspectors of the Labour Department are given a peon each. Inspectors of Co-operative Societies working in the department are given peons in special cases and the Government do not consider it necessary to give a peon to every such inspector working in rural areas

Police

Alleged compulsion of villagers to arbitration by Sangam in Melur taluk.

* 1384 Q.—Mr. K. P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA RAVUTTAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received complaints that the members of the Sangam formed by the inhabitants of about thirty or forty villages of Melur taluk, Madura district, under the leadership of Mr. Ranganatha Pillai, residing at Urilipatti, compel people in those villages not to go to Civil and Criminal Courts, and force them to submit to their arbitration;

(b) whether the Government will investigate into the activities of the abovementioned Sangam, call for the correspondence that ensued between the Taluk authorities and Police authorities and the Collector of Madura regarding the Sangam and lay it on the table of the House; and

(c) whether the Government will consider the advisability of suppressing the Sangam?

A.—(a) The Government have received no such complaints.

(b) The enquiry made shows that the Sangam attempted to make itself an authority for the settlement of petty disputes in villages. It came into conflict with the Forest department in 1927 but for the last six months it has practically ceased its activities. The Government do not consider that any useful purpose will be served by placing the correspondence referred to by the hon Member on the table of the House.

(c) Since the Sangam has ceased to function there is no necessity to take measures to suppress it.

Investigation of a pick-pocketing case by the Sangam, Melur taluk.

* 1385 Q.—Mr. K. P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA RAVUTTAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that a meeting of the Sangam formed by the inhabitants of about thirty or forty villages of Melur taluk, Madura district, under the leadership of one Mr. Ranganatha Pillai, residing at Urilipatti, Melur taluk, Madura district, was held in the Nattam village